



Erik Gordon

# Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Erik Gordon

SCHOOL: Lincoln Alt. High School

Position: Yearbook, web, science teacher

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 2 years

Q. What are students in your Yearbook and Web Site class working on?

A. Right now we're building pages for the yearbook. Students are responsible for their own pages and they design them using a special yearbook software program. Students also serve as reporters for the school and are constantly tracking down stories, taking photos and writing articles for the yearbook and new web site.

Q. What is the end product goal?

A. We will have a hardback yearbook with color photos on gloss paper. It will be a book that will stand the test of time. Although our costs are about \$3,000, the ASB will subsidize the project so students can purchase a yearbook for \$10. We feel it's important to make it affordable for all our students.

Q. What are some of the challenges you face in creating a yearbook?

A. I continually work with the students to push on. It can be overwhelming working on pages for days and days, but I challenge them to keep going. Students are learning about deadlines and the importance of finishing what they start.

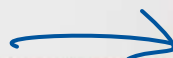
Q. What kind of feedback are you getting on the new web site?

A. It's been very positive. The site is our homepage at Lincoln so when you log onto your computer it's the first site you see. It's neat to see the expressions on the faces of students when they see themselves on the web page. Student work is the focus of the Lincoln web site and this helps build ownership of the site.

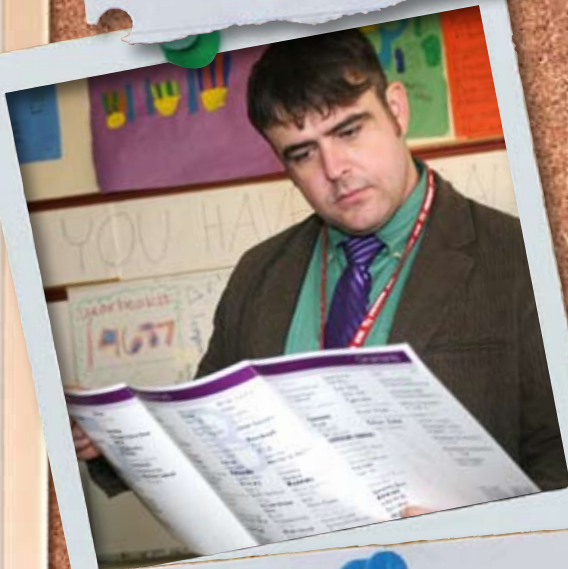
Q. What skills will students in this class develop?

A. They are learning layout and design and how to gather information and then report on it. One of the greatest skills they will learn is to keep going even when they don't feel like it. Hands on projects like these help them stay focused and see a finished product.

Over



MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM  
ERIK GORDON'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM ERIK...

The classroom needs to be as warm and welcoming as I can make it. I like to have music playing, living plants and special lighting to create this atmosphere. I like my classroom to be a clash between a really great living room and a science laboratory.

Teaching is everything I thought it would be, but there is a lot more to it than I thought there would be. It's a bigger project to do well.



Students in this class get a chance to use their creativity and create projects which benefit the entire school. The students are becoming leaders of the school.